

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAR 14 2007

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed in connection with a Request for Continued Examination. Please consider this Preliminary Amendment in connection with the Request for Continued Examination.

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claims 1-11 were provisionally rejected for obviousness double patenting over claims 1-11 of Serial No. 10/505,383. A terminal disclaimer is annexed to this Preliminary Amendment in order to remove the basis for the double-patenting rejection.

The Examiner noted the election of claims 1-11 and the withdrawal of claims 12-52.

In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, claims 1-6 and 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fischer in view of Hoffman.

Reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the adhesion is provided by an adhesive and that the selective treatment increases the adhesion in areas that are treated.

The Fischer patent discloses a form having a detachable card element. The detachable card element is held in place with a "peeling" adhesive which is an adhesive system that transfers the adhesive from the element to which it is applied to the card because the surface of the element to which the adhesive was originally applied was treated according to col. 3, lines 27-31 of Fischer.

If one were to practice the Fischer method, the peelable adhesive is transferred to the card as the card is removed. This peelable adhesive will cause the removed card to stick to other cards which is a distinct disadvantage of this system.

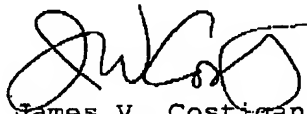
The claims of the present application, as amended, point out a process for making a business form with a

adhesive as is required by the amended claims of the present application. This heat sealing technology does not make obvious the applicants use of selective surface treatment in conjunction with an adhesive fastening method where the adhesion between two elements is reduced. For these reasons, the combination of the Fischer patent and the Hoffman patent fails to make obvious the amended claims of the present application.

For these reasons, it is requested that this ground of rejection be withdrawn.

An early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



James V. Costigan
Reg. No. 25,669

Hedman & Costigan, P.C.
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
(212) 302-8989

detachable card where the adhesion of the card to the business form is selectively controlled by forming of a pattern of selective variable adhesion in from 10 to 90 percent of the surface of the layer to which the card is removably adhered. The combined treated and untreated areas facilitate the removal of the card without the need to use a peelable adhesive because the adhesive properties of the surface have been modified. The selective adhesion imparted by the pattern, as defined in the claims of present application, is achieved by creating a surface where certain areas have no treatment and thus no enhanced adhesion as well as other areas which are treated to provide sufficient enhanced adhesion so that the card will not fall off the form prior to when it is desired to remove the card from the surface of the form.

The Fischer patent directs the skilled worker in the art that all of the surface of the layer to which the card is to be adhered, must be completely treated to improve the adhesive properties. This is necessary in the Fischer because of the use of a peelable adhesive which is to be removed with the card (col. 5, lines 12-15).

Hoffman discloses a concept of using selective corona treatment to form increased bond strengths. At col. 3, lines 32-35, Hoffman stated that:

The configurations associated with a treatment pattern can be used to enhance the increased bond strengths in the heat sealed region. (emphasis added)

The Hoffman disclosure is concerned with heat-sealing and he teaches away from the concept of providing reduced adhesion that allows for removal of an element from a surface having an adhesive. Hoffman at col. 4, lines 1-5 also comments on the effect of his variable treatment process with regard to the fact that uniform surface treatment results in excessive separation of heat sealed surfaces. Hoffman relies upon the melting of the film surfaces to achieve adhesion; he uses no